

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200 Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575 internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi @jsitel.com

October 15, 2013

By Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42

2013 ETC Annual Report of Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code 250290

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. "Farmers", JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules. Farmers seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information. The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System.

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Protective Order, DA 12-1857 rel. Nov. 16, 2012 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

	m 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting ollection Form		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-098 July 2013	6/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
<010>	Study Area Code	250290		
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP		
<020>	Program Year	2014		
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	J Frederick Johnson		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030	256.638.2144 D>		
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com		
ANNUA	L REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS			54.313 54.422 Completion Required Required
<100>	Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached wo	orksheet)	(check box when complete)
<200> <210>	Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached wa	orksheet)	
<310>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) Detail on Attempts (voice) Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) Detail on Attempts (broadband)	0 (attach descriptive da 1 (attach descriptive da		✓
<410> <420>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice Fixed Mobile 0.0 Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (brown Fixed Mobile 0.0 Mobile 0.0			✓
<500> <510> <600> <610> <700> <710> <800> <1000> <1110> <1110>	Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection 250290AL510 Functionality in Emergency Situations 250290AL610 Company Price Offerings (voice) Company Price Offerings (broadband)	n Rules Compliance (check to indicate certical (attached descriptive do (check to indicate certical (attached descriptive do (complete attached wood (complete attached wood (complete attached wood (if yes, complete attached wood (check to indicate certical (attached descriptive do (if not, check to indicate certical (complete attached wood	cument) (fication) (cument) whisheet) whisheet) whisheet) fication) cument) fication) whisheet)	\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}}
<2000> <2005>	Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to <u>Price Cap Addition</u> Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with F Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to <u>ROR Addition</u>	Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers (check to indicate certi (complete attached wo	orksheet)	
<3005>		(complete attached wo	rksheet)	

10/14/2013 Page 1

		llection Form			OMB Control No. 3060-0986 July 2013
	4010v	Shudu Area Cada 250290			
-	<010>	Study Area Code			
-	<015>	ottal / Trod Italia	ELECOM COOP		
_	<020>	110Grann real	Frederick Johnson		
_	<030> <035>	Contact Name Terson osac should contact regarding this data	256.638.2144		
-	<035>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	fjohnson@staff.farme	retel com	
-	<0392	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data fine Coso>	I John Bone Bear I. Tarme	15001.0011	
_	<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no)	\bigcirc \bigcirc	
	<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no)	00	
	<112>	If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service. Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your concept which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.	ompany is a		
		Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.		Name of Attached Do	cument (.pdf)
	<113>	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets			
	<114>	Report how much universal service (USF) support was received			
	<115>	How (USF) was used to improve service quality			
	<116>	How (USF)was used to improve service coverage			
	<117>	How (USF) was used to improve service capacity			
	<118>	Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.			

Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com

(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)

<039>

<220>

	Data Coll	ection Form		OMB Control No. 3060 July 2013
-	<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
	<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
	<020>	Program Year	2014	
	<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
	<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line	e <030> 256.638.2144	

FCC Form 481

<a>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<c1></c1>	<c2></c2>	<d></d>	<e></e>	<f></f>
NORS									Did This Outage
Reference	_	Outage Start	Outage End	Outage End	Number of		911 Facilities	Service Outage	Affect Multiple
Number	Date	Time	Date	Time	Customers Affected	Total Number of	Affected	Description (Check	Study Areas
						Customers	(Yes / No)	all that apply)	(Yes / No)
						See attache	d		
					14/6	rksheet	<u> </u>		
					WC	irksneet			
<u> </u>	l	l .			l		l .	1	

(700) Pric	ce Offerings including Voice Rate Data		FCC Form 481	
Data Coll	ection Form		OMB Control No. 306 July 2013	
<010>	Study Area Code	250290		
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP		
<020>	Program Year	2014		
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030	> 256.638.2144		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030	<pre>fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com</pre>		
<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date 1/1/20	13		
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge			

<703>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<b5></b5>
					Residential Local			Mandatory Exten
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Service Cha
					See att	ached worksheet		
		1	1	I		1		

(710) Broadband Price Offerings

Data Coll	ection Form		OMB Control No. 3060 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03	30> 256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <03	30> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	

FCC Form 481

<711>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<c></c>	<d1></d1>	<d2></d2>	<d3></d3>
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allov (GB)
			Se	e attached				
			work	sheet				

(800) Op	erating companies		FCC Form 481
Data Col	lection Form		OMB Control No. 306
			July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line	<030> 256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line	e<030> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	
<810>	Reporting Carrier Farmers Telecommunications Cooperation	ve, Inc.	
<811>	Holding Company		
<812>	Operating Company		

<813>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
VO137			
_	Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or
-			
-			
-	See a	ttached works	heet
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(900) Tri	bal Lands Reporting		FCC Form 481
Data Col	lection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-
			July 2013
<010>	Should Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Code Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data lin		l.com
<910>	Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves		
<920>	Tribal Government Engagement Obligation		
		Name of Attached D	Pocument (.pdf)
	If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes,No, NA) for		
	each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached		
	PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal		
	government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:		
		Select	
		(Yes,No,	
		NA)	
<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal	-	
	community anchor institutions;		
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning;		
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;		
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes		
<925>	Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements		
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules		
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes		
<928>	Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes		
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.		
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.		

	o Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting		FCC Form 481
Data Coll	ection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/ July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	
<1120>	Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)		
<1130>	Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)		

(1200) Te	erms and Condition for Lifeline Customers			FCC Form 481	
Lifeline Data Coll	lection Form			OMB Control No. July 2013	3060-0986/
				,	
<010>	Study Area Code		250290		
<015>	Study Area Name		FARMERS TELECOM COOP		
<020>	Program Year		2014		
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data		J Frederick Johnson		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data I	ine <030>	256.638.2144		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data	line <030	<pre>fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com</pre>		
<1210>	Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	-	250290AL1210		
		ſ	Name of attached document (.pdf)		
<1220>	Link to Public Website	HTTP_	http://farmerstel.com/		
	"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:				
<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,	✓			
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,	✓			
<1223>	Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	/			

(2000) Pr	ice Cap Carrier Additional Documentation		FCC Form 481
Data Coll	OMB Control No. 30		
Including	Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers		July 2013
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
۷010s	Study Area Code	0290	
<010> <015>	Study Area Code	RMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year 20:		
<030>		Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	
	·		
CHECK		in Dhana Lawrand faran High Cost areas High Cost areas of the	
CHECK tr	ne boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect Ameri	ica Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset a e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached b	_
	support as set forth in 47 crit 3 34.313(b),(c),(u),(t	s) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached b	Delow is accurate.
	Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting		
<2010>	2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)}		
<2011>	3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)}		
	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)}		
<2012>	2013 Frozen Support Certification		
<2013>	2014 Frozen Support Certification		
<2014>	2015 Frozen Support Certification		
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification		
	Duice Con Couries Connect America ICC Support (47 CFD 5 E4 212/4))		
-2016s	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}		
<2016>	Certification Support Used to Build Broadband		
	Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}		
<2017>	3rd year Broadband Service Certification		
<2018>	5th year Broadband Service Certification		
<2019>	Interim Progress Certification		
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 2021,		
~2020/	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a re	ecinient	
	of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresse	·	
	., , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
	community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broa	luballu	
-2024	service in the preceding calendar year.	Manager California and December 1985 and the London	
<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	

(3000) Ra	ate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form			OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
Data Con	ection Form		July 2013
			July 2013
_	250290		
<010> <015>	Study Area Code	TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Study Area Name FARMERS 7 Program Year 2014	TEBECOM COOP	
<030>	8	rederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	
CHECK +	he boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursua	ant to 47 CER 6 54 202(a)) and for privately held carriers ensuring	compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47
0.1201.1		the information reported on this form and in the documents attac	
	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan		
(3010)	Milestone Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
	Please check this box to confirm that the attached PDF , on line 3012,		
	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), as a		
(3011)	recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and		
	addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing		
	access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.		
(3012)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	ů .	✓ (Yes/No)
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report		(Yes/No)
	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017,		
	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance		
	requires: Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for		
(3015)	Telecommunications Borrowers)		(<u> </u>
(3016)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		
(3010)	·		
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual		250290AL3017
(2010)	report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	(Mar (Na)
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, Is your company audited?		(Yes/No)
	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to		
	confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains .		
	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report		
(3019)	in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications		
(3020)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		
(3020)			
(3021)	Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant		
	that performed the company's financial audit.		
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below		
	to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:		
	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an		
	independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a		
(3022)	format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications		
	Borrowers,		
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified		
	public accountant		
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		\vdash
(3025)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	

Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form		ier	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Pers	on USAC should contact regarding this data J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 256.638.2144		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com		

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.			
Name of Reporting Carrier: FARMERS TELECOM COOP			
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date	10/14/2013	
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Tyler Pair			
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CFO			
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 256.638.2144			
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 250290	Filing Due Date for this form: 10/15/2013		

10/14/2013 Page 12

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person US	SAC should contact regarding this data J Frederick J	ohnson
<035>	Contact Telephone Numb	er - Number of person identified in data line <030> 256.638	.2144
<039>	Contact Email Address - E	mail Address of person identified in data line <030> fjohns	on@staff.farmerstel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier			
I certify that (Name of Agent)_ also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and d	is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrie sponsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized apent is accurate.		
Name of Authorized Agent:			
Name of Reporting Carrier:			
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date:		
Printed name of Authorized Officer:			
Title or position of Authorized Officer:			
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:			
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:		
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can	punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.		

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Ager	nt Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipier	nts on Behalf of Reporting Carrier
	uthorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support ne reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the informati	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Name of Reporting Carrier:		
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:		
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:		Date:
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	t:	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent		
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of	Agent:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:	
Persons willfully making false statements on this fo	orm can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	.934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title

Attachments

800) Ope	erating Companies		FCC Form 481
Data Coll	lection Form		OMB Control No. 306
			July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	250290	
<015>	Study Area Name	FARMERS TELECOM COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2014	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	J Frederick Johnson	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030	0> 256.638.2144	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <03	30> fjohnson@staff.farmerstel.com	
	Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative,	Inc	
<810>	Reporting Carrier Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative,	inc.	
<811>	Holding Company		
<812>	Operating Company		

<813>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
	Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or
=	Farmers Telecommunications Corporation		Farmers Telecommunication
_	Farmers Cellular Telephone, Inc.		Farmers Wireless
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Line 330

One customer sited on a copper loop beyond the physical distance capacity of DSL technology was unserved. The cost of improving the loop was estimated at \$10,000 or greater and the customer chose not to offer any aid-to-construction. FTC offered to install Exede satellite broadband, but the customer did not elect to subscribe. The case fell within the guidelines covering economic feasibility as prescribed by RUS and the Alabama Public Service Commission.3

Line 510

FTC complies fully with all known and properly established Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection rules. Both internally and with the help of outside consultants, FTC periodically conducts audits of its policies and procedures and engages in routine training of all personnel in areas appropriate to their areas of responsibility regarding these issues. FTC is periodically examined by the Alabama Public Service Commission on matters related to quality of service. There have been no findings of material deficiency during the current reporting year or in any year recent thereto. Any finding of relevance, even if not material, is promptly addressed and remediated by FTC as appropriate.

FTC maintains a record of any alleged or actual violations of consumer protection rules and responds promptly to any such incidents. There are no such incidents during the reporting year.

FTC is not currently aware of any investigation or allegations of any complaints regarding consumer protection or service quality standards.

FTC is required to certify annually to the Alabama Public Service Commission regarding its compliance with APSC rules. Such certification is current.

Line 610

FTC's network architecture is fundamentally constructed in a geographical ring topology allowing redundant feeds to its various serving wire centers. This redundant architecture affords additional protection against artificial interruptions in circuitry. FTC maintains and audits its electrical grounding policies and practices in keeping with industry best practices and RUS rules at all levels of its network and outside plant facilities.

All serving wire centers are equipped with battery backup facilities and, depending on the size of the wire center, auxiliary generation facilities. FTC maintains a fleet of backup generators for deployment to those wire centers that do not economically justify self contained stand-by power facilities. FTC further maintains larger auxiliary generators for deployment to a remote site in the event of a failure of auxiliary power facilities. This essentially provides two layers of protection against a loss of the primary electrical service. All auxiliary power facilities are subject to routine periodic testing and maintenance. The last significant actual deployment of these facilities was in April of 2011 when massive tornadoes struck our service territory and the entire power grid of Northeast Alabama operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority was negatively impacted. FTC's facilities were of such a dependable nature that it hosted the local Emergency Management Agency's command center for more than half a month due to the instability of the power grid.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 First Revised Sheet 3

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.7 Basic Local Exchange Rates *

(C) Business**:

Exchange Name	1 Party
Bryant	\$32.60
Flat Rock	\$32.60
Fyffe	\$32.60
Geraldine	\$32.60
Henagar	\$32.60
Pisgah	\$32.60
Rainsville	\$32.60

Residence:

Exchange Name	<u>Rate</u>
Bryant	\$16.30
Flat Rock	\$16.30
Fyffe	\$16.30
Henagar	\$16.30
Geraldine	\$16.30
Pisgah	\$16.30
Rainsville	\$16.30

^{*} Basic Service Rates listed above do not include any federal, state or local fees or taxes, including without limitation, E-911 charges and the \$0.15 dual-party relay surcharge, which shall be shown separately on a customer's bill. Listed rates include a \$0.85 end user charge and touchtone service.

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(C)

(C)

^{**} Includes service for one (1) business line. Rates for more than one (1) business line may be found in the Company's price list.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 4

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.8 <u>Exchange Regrading</u> (Applicable to exchanges capable of handling all one party service).

S2.9 Extended Area Service

A. General

Extended Area Service will be implemented between those exchanges which meet all criteria and conditions as set forth by the Alabama Public Service Commission in the Special Telephone Rules, Rule T-24.

S2.10 <u>Local Directory Assistance Service</u>

- A. The Company furnishes a Directory Assistance service for the purpose of aiding customers in obtaining listing information.
- B. Directory Assistance Service allows a subscriber to provide a name to get a telephone number, ZIP Code and/or directory address.
- C. There will be a charge for all customer calls to Directory Assistance, except:
 - a. Residential customers who have a visual or physical disability rendering them unable to use a telephone directory, and
 - b. Business customers employing one or more persons diagnosed with that same disability.

Such a diagnosis must be confirmed in writing by a physician or an appropriate group or agency. This exemption is applicable exclusively to calls made by the disabled individual from their line, or in the case of a business employing disabled person(s), from the line assigned to that disabled individual(s). Usage will be monitored by the Company and is subject to review and investigation. Certification will be verified periodically. Confirmed, inappropriate use of the exemption could result in its removal.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 5

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.10 <u>Local Directory Assistance Service (Cont'd)</u>

D. Surcharges as specified in this Tariff Section S2.10(E) will be applicable to all calls to Directory Assistance Service handled by the operator ("0-"), provided that the "0" operator is not the only source for Local Directory Assistance, or dialed by the customer ("0+").

E. Rates and Charges

- a. Directory Assistance service
 Request of a listing (maximum of two requests per call)
 - 1. Within the Company's local calling or LATA/NPA serving area for the originating line

\$.95/call

- 2. Outside the Company's local calling and LATA/NPA serving areas for the originating line
- \$.95/call
- b. Directory Assistance service to Payphone Service Providers
 - 1. All calls to Directory Assistance

\$.35/call

S2.11 Operator Assisted Local Calls and Local Calling Card Service

A. General

For any Dial Calling Card Station, Operator Station or Person-To-Person message completed within the Local Calling Area, the appropriate service charge specified in this Tariff S2.11.C. following, will be applied except as specified below in S2.11.B. following.

B. <u>Application Of Charges</u>

- 1. The appropriate service charge, as specified in S2.11.C following, will be applied to each completed call except:
- a. for calls to the Company for official telephone business,
- b. for emergency calls to agency type telephone numbers such as to those agencies of the federal, state or local government which have the capability and legal authority to provide aid in emergency situations and to any emergency medical number,
- c. when the caller identifies himself as being handicapped and unable to place the call due to his handicap,

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 6

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.11 Operator Assisted Local Calls and Local Calling Card Service (Cont'd)

- B. Application Of Charges (Cont'd)
 - 1. (Cont'd)
 - d. when the caller advises he has had service trouble in reaching the terminating number,
 - e. for local emergency calls from a coin station,
 - f. for station-paid calls from hotel guests, or
 - 2. The call may be billed to the originating telephone, calling card, third number, collect, or any other Company-approved identification number.

C. Rates And Charges

- 1. The following charges for operator system served local calls apply in addition to the local dial rates:
- a. Billing Surcharges Station-to-Station
- (1) Dial Calling Card \$1.00
- (2) Operator \$2.50
- (3) Inmate calls originating from correctional facilities (Automated) \$1.25
- b. Billing Surcharges Person-to-Person \$5.00
- c. Operator Dialed Surcharge Station-to-station operator assisted or person-to-person operator assisted calls (excluding those billed to calling

operator assisted calls (excluding those billed to calling cards) where the operator dials the terminating

number \$1.25

- d. Partially Automated Surcharge
 Station-to-station operator assisted calls where the customer dials the terminating number \$0.75
- e. Zero Minus Charge
 Provision of Area Code, Place Name (in what Area Code
 is a city or exchange), Ring Back (caller wants call
 back to test whether equipment connected to his line

"rings" when outside caller dials his number), Operator Dialing of

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 7

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.11 Operator Assisted Local Calls and Local Calling Card Service (Cont'd)

C. Rates And Charges (Cont'd)

1. (Cont'd)

800,888, 877, 866 and 855 numbers on the caller's behalf; each request (one request per call)

\$0.95

D. Operator Assisted Premium Plan

A premium is defined as a commission applicable to surcharge revenue associated with local operator assisted call requests sent to the Company by the customer. Such premiums may be payable to subscribing customers based on the Company's surcharge revenue generated by said calls.

These calls must:

- 1. originate from a telephone line associated with the customer's account,
- 2. originate and terminate in the same Basic Local Calling Area,
- 3. be carried and completed by the Company via Company facilities and
- 4. be billed by the Company.

In the event the Company billing records used to determine the premiums are destroyed or lost, the Company shall not be liable for payments of premiums on such lost data.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 8

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.12 <u>Local Operator Verification/Interruption Service</u>

A. General

Verification Service provides operator assistance in determining if a called line is in use. Interruption Service provides for operator interruption of voice conversation in progress on a called line to advise the interrupted subscriber that the interrupting party has an emergency need to reach him. Data use of a subscriber line will be verified, but not interrupted. The customer may request these services for a charge, where facilities are available, by calling the "0" operator.

B. <u>Application of Charges</u>

- 1. The charges specified in Section S2.12.C will apply to all requests except
- a. emergency requests from official emergency agencies when the request is received on an agency line from agency personnel;
- b. emergency requests in which the caller identifies that the request is to one of the following:
- (1) an official public emergency agency,
- (2) an emergency medical number, or
- (3) a privately endowed and operated suicide, drug, alcohol, or runaway crisis reporting center; or
- c. requests in which the operator encounters a trouble condition or has reason to believe a trouble condition exists.

C. Rates

- Verification Charge applies each time the operator verifies that a line is in use.

 \$2.50
- 2. Interruption Charge applies each time the operator interrupts voice conversation in progress and does not depend on whether the called-party agrees to release the line \$5.00
- 3. If an operator both verifies the condition of the line and interrupts conversation on the same request, only the interrupt charge applies.
- 4. The charges for Verify/Interrupt Service are in addition to any applicable message rates.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 First Revised Sheet 9

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 Dual Party Relay Service

A. Application

For the purposes of this Section, the following definitions, rules and regulations are applicable, in addition to the definitions contained in Section 26 and to the rules and regulations contained in Section 25 of this Tariff. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Section and the provisions of Sections 25 and 26, then the provisions of this Section shall prevail.

B. <u>Description of Service</u>

Dual Party Relay permits the hearing and speech impaired users of Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) to communicate with users of ordinary telephones. Communication takes place when a communications assistant relays conversations (voice to TDD or TDD to voice). These calls are between one party who must communicate by means of a TDD and another who communicates by means of an ordinary telephone. Messages are rated from the rate center of the calling party to the rate center of the called party. The Company is charging a \$0.15 surcharge for Dual Party Relay Service, which shall be shown separately on a (C) customer's bill.

C. <u>Definitions</u>

Alabama Relay Center - A center located at a predetermined point outside the Company's Network, staffed with communications assistants of a predetermined carrier, which permits the hearing and speech impaired users of Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) to communicate with users of ordinary telephones.

Bill to Third Party - A billing arrangement which permits a long distance "voice to TDD" or "TDD to voice" call to be charged to an authorized station, as determined by the Company, other than the station originating the call or the station where the call is terminated. These calls may be billed only to a third number within Alabama.

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 10

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 Dual Party Relay Service (Cont'd)

C. Definitions (Cont'd)

Person-To-Person Call - A MTS (Long Distance Message Telecommunications Service) class of service where the person originating the "voice to TDD" or "TDD to voice" call specifies to the communications assistant at the Alabama Relay Center a particular person to be reached. When the person originating such a call agrees to talk to anyone other than the one specified, the classification of the call remains person to person.

Station-To-Station Call - A MTS (Long Distance Message Telecommunications Service) class of service where the person originating the "voice to TDD or TDD to voice" call gives to the communications assistant at the Alabama Relay Center the telephone number of the desired station, and does not specify a particular person to be reached.

- 1. "Dial Station" is that Station-to-Station Service in which a call is dialed by the customer, except when an operator assists in the completion of calls between hearing and speech impaired Customers who use Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD), and users of ordinary telephones.
- 2. "Customer Dialed Calling Card Station" is that Station-to-Station service in which a call is dialed by the customer, except when an operator assists in the completion of calls between hearing and speech impaired Customers who use Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD), and users of ordinary telephones.

The use of this calling service limits the billing of calls through the Alabama Relay Center to an Alabama Calling Card Number.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 11

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 <u>Dual Party Relay Service (Cont'd)</u>

D. Restrictions

The following calls may not be placed through the Alabama Relay Center:

- Calls to 976, 900 or 700 numbers.
- Calls to time or weather recorded messages.
- Calls to other informational recordings.
- Station sent paid calls from coin telephones.
- Operator handled conference service and other teleconference calls.
- All calls billed to Cards (i.e., Credit Cards and Calling Cards) other than those assigned by the telephone company.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2

(N)

Second Revised Sheet 12

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.14 <u>Lifeline Assistance Program</u>

A. General

- 1. The Lifeline Assistance Program is a government assistance program developed to reduce rates for primary residential telephone service to qualifying subscribers who receive income-based benefits. Lifeline Assistance provides for a Federal credit totaling no more than ten dollars (\$10.00), plus a State-provided subsidy, to qualified residential subscribers. The Company participates in this program to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas.
- 2. To constitute a qualifying low-income customer eligible to receive Lifeline services, a customer must meet the requirements set forth in either paragraph a. or b. below:
 - a. A customer's household income must be at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of that size;
 - (1) For purposes of these rules, "income" is defined as all income actually received by all members of a household. This includes salary before deductions for taxes, public assistance benefits, social security payments, pensions, unemployment compensation, veteran's benefits, inheritances, alimony, child support payments, worker's compensation benefits, gifts, lottery winnings, and the like. The only exceptions are student financial aid, military housing and cost-of-living allowances, irregular income from occasional small jobs such as baby-sitting or lawn mowing, and the like.
 - (2) A "household" is any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit. A household may include related and unrelated persons. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household. An adult is any person eighteen (18) years or older. If an adult has no or minimal income, and lives with someone who provides financial support to him/her, both people shall be considered part of the same household. Children under the age of eighteen (18) living with their

(N)

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 12A

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.14 Lifeline Assistance Program (Cont'd)

- A. General (Cont'd)
 - 2. (Cont'd)
 - a. (Cont'd)
 - parents or guardians are considered to be part of the same household as their parents or guardians. (N)
 - The Federal and State credits are also available for qualified Medicaid, b. (T)(M)Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"), Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8 (a Federal Housing Assistance Program), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP"), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families ("TANF") or National School Lunch Program's Free (N) Lunch Program recipients who are eligible and apply for the credits. A subscriber will also be considered to be eligible for Lifeline credit even if he does not personally participate in one of these assistance programs, so long as an individual who lives in his household, and for whom he is financially responsible, participates in at least one of the above-listed lowincome assistance programs. Lifeline credits will be applied to a maximum of one line per eligible subscriber. (M)
 - 3. In addition to meeting the qualifications provided in paragraph a. or b. above, in

 (N)

 order to constitute a qualifying low-income customer, a customer must not already be receiving a Lifeline service, and there must not be anyone else in the subscriber's household subscribed to a Lifeline service.

 (N)

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Original Sheet 12B

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.14 <u>Lifeline Assistance Program (Cont'd)</u>

B. Applications and Regulations

(M)

Guidelines for implementation of this program are as follows:

(D)

1. Processing Procedures

(T)

The Company will process all applications and apply the appropriate credit on the subscriber's monthly bill. A Secondary Service Ordering Charge is not applicable for existing customers subscribing to Lifeline.

2. Verification Procedures

(T)

Qualifying subscribers must provide the Company with acceptable documentation as (N)

proof of their eligibility to receive Lifeline service under the income-based or program-based requirements. The Company will confirm a subscriber's continuing eligibility to receive Lifeline service on an annual basis by requiring the subscriber to sign a certification as to his/her present qualifications for Lifeline service. Upon a determination of ineligibility, the credit will be discontinued on the bill if the customer fails to provide proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days after written notification to the subscriber of ineligibility.

(M)

3. If the Company receives notification from the program administrator that the subscriber is receiving Lifeline service from another eligible telecommunications carrier or that more than one member of a subscriber's household is receiving Lifeline service, the subscriber will be de-enrolled from Lifeline Assistance without notice within five (5) business days following the Company's receipt of that notice.

(N)

4. Regulations

(M)

- a. The Company may not disconnect Lifeline Service due to non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are not eligible for Lifeline assistance and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
- b. The Company must apply partial payments first to local service and then to toll

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2 Third Revised Sheet 13 (M)

(C)

(C)

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.14 <u>Lifeline Assistance Program (Cont'd)</u>

B. Applications and Regulations (Cont'd)

4. Regulations (Cont'd)

charges.

- c. Lifeline assistance will not be connected if an outstanding balance is owed by the customer for local service.
- d. As a participant in Lifeline assistance, customers are eligible to receive Toll Limitation Service at no charge for any Lifeline service that charges a fee for toll calls, either domestic or international, that is in addition to the monthly price of the customer's Lifeline service. This service will only be provided at the customer's request and is limited to plans that distinguish between local and longdistance calling.
- e. Local service deposit requirements will be waived for customers who voluntarily receive Toll Limitation Service¹.
- f. A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residential customers.
- g. One low income credit is available per household and is available to the primary residential connection only.
- h. The PICC will not be billed to Lifeline customers who subscribe to toll blocking and do not presubscribe to a long-distance carrier.
- i. Lifeline subscribers may apply their Lifeline discount to the Company's family shared calling plans and to bundled service packages or packages containing optional calling features available to Lifeline customers. The calling plan must be in the name of the eligible subscriber, and a household may receive only one Lifeline supported service. Partial payments from Lifeline subscribers purchasing bundled packages or packages containing optional calling features will first be applied to pay down the allocated price of the Lifeline voice services.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Section 2

Third Revised Sheet 14

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.14 Lifeline Assistance Program (Cont'd)

C. Rates and Charges

The following monthly credits will apply for each customer eligible for Lifeline Assistance:

Monthly Credit *

• Federal Credit \$ 9.25 (R)

• State Credit to Residential Access Line \$ 3.50

* The maximum Lifeline Assistance credit available to Alabama customers is \$12.75 (R) per month.

Credit amount will not exceed the basic charge for local telephone service, which includes the Subscriber Line Charge, access line and local usage.

FARMERS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, INC. (SAC 250290)

 $\textbf{ATTACHMENT-LINE}\,3017$

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY